

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 100947 TOSEC 110157

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ORIGIN PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00

EUR-12 NEA-10 /044 R

DRAFTED BY S/PRS:FZBROWN:SM

APPROVED BY S/PRS - FREDERICK Z. BROWN

S/S-MR ORTIZ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

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FOR FUNSETH FROM S/PRS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, SOPN (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF DAILY PRESS BRIEFING, MONDAY, APRIL 26

NO. 16

IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, SPOKESMAN (BROWN) GAVE FOLLOWING
REPLIES:

(1) RADIATION AT MOSCOW EMBASSY -- WE DO NOT HAVE MUCH TO
ADD TO WHAT HAS BEEN SAID BEFORE. WILL EMPHASIZE, HOWEVER,
THAT AS LONG AS THERE IS PROSPECT THAT DISCUSSIONS WITH
SOVIETS ON THIS SENSITIVE SUBJECT CAN POSSIBLY RESOLVE
PROBLEM, WE ARE NOT GOING TO COMMENT ON PRESS STORIES.
FEEL OBLIGED TO STATE THAT EVANS AND NOVAK STORY WHICH
APPEARED TODAY IS IN ERROR.

QUESTIONED ABOUT AP STORY ON INSTALLATION OF ALUMINUM
SHIELDS IN MOSCOW EMBASSY, SPOKESMAN SAID WE DO NOT INTEND
TO COMMENT ON STORIES CLAIMING TO BE BASED ON LEAKED
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PAGE 02 STATE 100947 TOSEC 110157

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ASKED ABOUT AMBASSADOR STOESSEL'S HEALTH, SPOKESMAN REPLIED IT INAPPROPRIATE TO COMMENT ABOUT HEALTH OF STOESSEL OR ANY OTHER INDIVIDUAL IN MOSCOW BUT POINTED OUT THAT LAST TIME THE SUBJECT CAME UP, SPOKESMAN FOR STOESSEL REPORTED HE WAS FEELING FINE, KEEPING BUSY SCHEDULE, LEADING AN ACTIVE LIFE, AND NOT REPEAT NOT UNDERGOING MOSCOW TREATMENT. WE CONFIRMED THAT THIS STILL TRUE.

ASKED ABOUT STATE DEPARTMENT REACTION TO AFSA PRESIDENT HEMENWAY'S DEMAND THAT SOVIET AMBASSADOR DOBRYNIN BE "DEPORTED" BECAUSE OF RADIATION PROBLEM IN MOSCOW, SPOKESMAN REPLIED WE WOULD NOT DIGNIFY HEMENWAY'S STATEMENT WITH ANY COMMENT AND ADDED THAT HEMENWAY'S STATEMENT ON SUBJECT OF MOSCOW EMBASSY IS FULL OF INACCURACIES, MIS-STATEMENTS AND ERRONEOUS ASSUMPTIONS.

(2) AMBASSADOR L. DEAN BROWN -- BROWN IS IN WASHINGTON NOW AND WILL BE CONSULTING WITH DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS, INCLUDING AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE MELOY ABOUT LEBANON SITUATION. WE EXPECT HE WILL BE RETURNING TO LEBANON LATER THIS WEEK.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, PRESS SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE100947
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: FZBROWN:SM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760158-0503
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760420/aaaaaqsm.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN PRS
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 AUG 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31 AUG 2004 by cookms>; APPROVED <13 DEC 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SUMMARY OF DAILY PRESS BRIEFING, MONDAY, APRIL 26 NO. 16
TAGS: OVIP, SOPN, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006